

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NOUAKC 01151 101305Z

50

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 EB-07 OPR-02 SCS-03 A-01 COME-00

TRSE-00 FRB-03 SCA-01 /087 W  
----- 115949

R 100935Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3917

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NOUAKCHOTT 1151

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PBOR MR SG

SUBJECT: MAURITANIAN-SENEGALESE RELATIONS

REF: DAKAR 3148

1. SINCE WEEKEND OF MAY 31, PRIMARY SENEGAL/MAURITANIAN BORDER CROSSING AT ROSSO ON SENEGAL RIVER HAS BEEN SCENE OF SHIPPING STOPPAGES AND HARASSMENT OF TRAVELLERS. RECENTLY ARRIVED TRAVELLERS FROM ROSSO TELL US USUALLY RELAXED POLICE AND CUSTOMS OFFICIALS ON BOTH SIDES OF RIVER HAVE BEEN SCRUPULOUSLY INSPECTING I.D. CARDS, VISAS, PASSPORTS AND LUGGAGE. ANY PERCEIVED IRREGULARITIES RESULT IN LONG DELAYS OR DENIAL OF PERMISSION TO CROSS BORDER. EMBOFF, WHO WAS IN ROSSO JUNE 4, REPORTED SEEING TRAVELLERS BEING BODILY REMOVED BY BORDER OFFICIALS FROM FERRY AND BOATS, SOME IN MID-STREAM. LOCAL TRANSPORT COMPANIES REPORT DELAYS IN TRANSITTING GOODS ACROSS BORDER.

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2. SIMILARLY, FOR PAST SEVERAL DAYS, PASSENGERS ARRIVING

AT NOUAKCHOTT AIRPORT FROM DAKAR ARE TREATED TO UNUSUALLY THOROUGH CUSTOMS AND POLICE CLEARANCE.

3. COMMENT: IF, AS PRESIDENT SENGHOR INDICATED (REFTEL, MAURITANIA AND SENEGAL HAVE ACCEPTED MALIAN MEDIATION OF THEIR TERRITORIAL DISPUTE, THEN CURRENT DELAY OF GOODS AND HARASSMENT OF TRAVELLERS AT BORDER MAY SOON END. HOWEVER, THIS "EPISODE", AS SENGHOR HAS CALLED IT, HAS REAWAKENED OLD HOSTILITIES AND AROUSED NATIONALISTIC FEELINGS ON BOTH SIDES OF BORDER. WHILE NORMALLY CLOSE SENEGAL- MAURITANIAN RELATIONS WILL CONTINUE OF NECESSITY, WE ARE REMINDED THAT SERIOUS SOURCES OF FRICTION BETWEEN THESE TWO COUNTRIES EXIST DESPITE ASSERTIONS TO THE CONTRARY BY MAURITANIAN AND SENEGALESE LEADERS.HANDYSIDE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, DISPUTES, BOUNDARY CLAIMS, BORDER CONTROLS, CUSTOMS INSPECTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchant0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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